

HELD FOR HOMICIDE.

Lafe Woodson, a Popular Actor and Barkeeper,

INFLECTS THE FATAL INJURIES

That Cause the Death of Thomas Fleming—The Victim the Son of a Once Prominent Iron Manufacturer Here—Woodson in Jail.

"You needn't call that feller Fleming," was the remark made by one of the policemen to Police Court Clerk Fee in the court yesterday morning.

"Why not?" asked Mr. Fee.

"He's dead."

This statement of a fact created no more commotion in Mayor Seabright's placid court than if it had been in an army hospital, where more men die than get well.

Thomas A. Fleming, who is well known in Wheeling, has been in Wellsburg for several weeks, looking after some money left him by a maiden aunt some time ago. On Sunday evening he boarded the Matt F. Allen, which had on board the excursion of the Mark Twain Rod and Gun Club, to come to Wheeling. The boat arrived here after midnight, and Fleming walked down from the wharf to Fourteenth street, along Water street and up Fourteenth to Market and to Dolan's saloon, just above the Opera House. He went into the backroom and sat down at a table and soon fell asleep, apparently being deeply under the influence of liquor.

After a few minutes the barkeeper, Lafe Woodson, went into the back room and shook Fleming violently to waken him. Fleming made some incoherent reply when told that he was not in a looking house, and sat upright and seemed to be getting sober.

The barkeeper went back to his place behind the bar, but after a while noticed Fleming sleeping again. He again awakened him, and warned him that unless he could keep awake he would put him out. Fleming was a little obstreperous that time, and asked Woodson for a chew of tobacco. Woodson said he had some behind the bar, and Fleming asked him to bring it to him. Woodson replied that he admired the man's cheek, but brought him the tobacco, and again told him that Dolan, the proprietor of the saloon, did not allow people to sleep in the back room, and warned him not to lie on the table.

PUT OUT OF THE SALOON.

At a few minutes after 3 o'clock Woodson saw that Fleming was asleep again, and went back to order him out of the house. He shook him, and Fleming, wakened, asked what was wrong, apparently vexed over his nap's being broken. Woodson told him he would have to leave, and took hold of his arm to lead him out. Fleming raised his case, which was lying on the table before him, and struck at Woodson twice, failing both times to reach him. Woodson had retreated out of reach of the cane, and Fleming had risen to his feet and was standing in a belligerent attitude. Woodson struck him in the face and knocked him down, and while he was lying on the floor, it is stated, struck him two or three times. Woodson then took Fleming by the shoulders and dragged him to the pavement.

Officer West was standing with Killian Bader at the corner of Fourth and Market streets, and hearing the noise, went over to see what was wrong. He found Fleming on the pavement, bleeding slightly from a small wound on the cheek.

Fleming seemed to be in a stupor, and the officer took it for granted that he had been drinking heavily and called the patrol wagon to haul him to the lockup. While waiting for the wagon he helped Fleming to his feet and walked him a short distance down the pavement. Fleming said nothing, and when the wagon arrived he got in with the help of the officer and the driver.

At the Public Building he was able to walk to the lockup, and asked for water to wash his face, which was still bleeding a little from the abrasion of the skin caused by the blow Woodson struck him. Officer West started to wash him in the outer room, but the lockup keeper took him to the sink in the cell room, where he washed his face. His face had swollen badly when the lockup keeper went to the cell to look at him about 6 o'clock.

At 6 o'clock, when the day turn lockup keeper arrived, the night man told him that Fleming, who was in cell No. 8, was pretty badly used up, and cautioned him to look after him a little.

Fleming had called for water several times, and seemed very thirsty. Shortly before 9 o'clock Captain Delbrugge arrived and had the corridor gates locked, preparatory to sending the prisoners in the lockup into the court room. About ten minutes before nine, the Mayor having arrived, Officer Scally went into the cell room to let the prisoners out.

FLEMING WAS DEAD.

When Fleming's cell was unlocked he made no movement to go out, and Officer Scally called to him to go into court. He made no answer, and Scally went in and shook him and pulled his legs down from the bench upon the floor. A violent shaking failed to rouse him, and the officer reported to the captain that something was wrong with the prisoner.

The chief sent Officers Buch and Moran to get him out. They could not awaken him and Buch reported him dead, though not thinking at the time that he was dead.

Officer Moran put his hand on Fleming's face and neck and found him still warm, but when he held his ear to Fleming's heart and felt for his pulse at the wrist, he found that the man was certainly dead.

They carried Fleming's body out into the back room and placed it upon a cot. Several physicians were telephoned for, but none of them arrived, and Dr. Stathers, who happened to be in the vicinity, was called in.

After death Fleming's face, which was badly swollen before, became a horrible sight. The right side turned blue and yellow, and grew to enormous size. His right eye was swollen shut and his nose was almost invisible. On the point of the cheek bone there was a slight contusion that turned violet, making the colors about it more intense and giving the whole face a more horrible appearance.

Coroner Phillips and J. W. Hunter, who is a cousin of the dead man, were notified and arrived in a few minutes. The coroner made hasty preparations for an inquest and telephoned County Physician Wilson to make

AN AUTOPSY ON THE BODY.

He then summoned the following jury; and set the inquest for 3:30 p. m.: Messrs. Ed Robertson, John Boreman,

Eugene Hanke, Robert Teasdale, F. A. Woerber and John Howell.

Immediately after Fleming's death, Officers Jack West and Billy Carney went to Woodson's rooms at the corner of Eleventh and Main streets, over Laah's jewelry store, and placed him under arrest, bringing him down to the lock-up and locking him up in cell No. 1. Woodson had very little to say about the matter except that he had used no undue violence upon Fleming, and that he would have used none except that Fleming had struck at him with his cane and he feared he might injure him if he did not knock him down. He sent for Capt. B. B. Dovenor, who arrived before noon and consulted with him in his cell. After Captain Dovenor left Woodson refused to speak of the matter at all, stating that his attorney had so advised him.

There were several persons in the saloon at the time, but none of them were known to Woodson, and none of them could be found but Harry Chapline, a printer, who was with Fleming a few minutes before he was put out, and who was still in the bar-room at the time. Chapline knew none of the others at the bar, and told substantially the story given above.

Thomas A. Fleming is a son of William Fleming, formerly a prominent citizen of Wheeling who was in the iron business and a part owner in the old Virginia Iron Works. He died in 1883, leaving a wife and one son and one daughter, the man who died yesterday being the son. The widow and daughter live in Toledo, O. They are well-to-do people and have high social standing. A maiden aunt of Fleming, a Miss Fleming, died at Wellsburg recently, leaving an estate valued at nearly \$200,000. Of this, Fleming's mother received about \$50,000, and his sister \$10,000. Fleming was entitled to \$1,000 under the will, and had been up there looking after the money.

WHAT OF THE \$1,000?

He was seen in Wellsburg just a week ago by a prominent Wheeling man, and at that time said he intended to take the money and go to Denver as soon as he got it. There was a great deal of speculation yesterday as to whether he had gotten it, the thought being that if he did he had been robbed, for only \$11.85 and a silver watch were found in his clothes by the police.

Fleming was between thirty-five and forty years old, and was dressed in a suit of striped blue stuff when he died. He has been a regular drinker for a long time and has drunk quite heavily for several months. He seldom spoke to anyone except a few intimate acquaintances, and even when drunk was never boisterous or noisy.

Woodson is an actor and was connected with the "Kindergarten" company last season. He is a connection by direct descent of a very good Virginia family, an uncle being ex-Senator Woodson of that State. Those who have met him often since he came to Wheeling a month ago say he was a very genteel young man, and that he always behaved himself in a manner that was in keeping with his good breeding. In speaking of the matter early yesterday morning, before it was known that Fleming was badly hurt, he said he would not have put him out had it not been forced upon him, and that he was sorry that he had been forced to strike him. He also said he felt very much annoyed when Fleming did not rise from the pavement and that Officer West had assured him that Fleming was not badly hurt.

THE INQUEST.

Death Pronounced the Result of the Injuries Received.

The Coroner's inquest was begun in Coroner Phillips's office at 3:45 p. m. City Solicitor T. S. Riley appeared for the State, he having charge of the Prosecuting Attorney's office during Mr. Howard's absence. The first witness called was Harry Chapline.

Q—Where do you live?

A—In Wheeling.

Q—How long have you lived here?

A—About forty-five years.

Q—What's your business?

A—I'm a printer.

Q—Do you know Thomas Fleming?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—When did you see him last?

A—In Dolan's saloon between three and four o'clock this morning.

Q—Do you know the barkeeper?

A—I know his name is Lafe.

Q—Now, say to the jury what took place there.

A—Tom Fleming went to sleep, and Lafe went back and told him Dolan didn't allow it. He shook him up and he went to sleep again, and I went out to the bar. Lafe saw Tom asleep again and he went back and asked him to go out.

At this point a telephone message was received, asking that the inquest be postponed till Captain Dovenor, who had been retained by Woodson, could get to the office. Captain Dovenor arrived in a few minutes, and Chapline resumed.

Fleming went to sleep again. Woodson went back and wakened him again. Fleming tried to hit him with his cane. Lafe hit him and knocked him down. He hit him several times while he was down. He then took him by the shoulders and pushed him out through the swinging doors. I stayed inside and could not see them after they went out. Lafe came back in a few minutes, at most. Officer Jack West came and took charge of him.

To Captain Dovenor—Woodson did not strike Fleming till Fleming struck at him with the cane. While Fleming was on the floor Lafe hit him only with his fist. He hit him about the head. The cane was a light one. Fleming was drunk, or had been drinking. He had been up on the excursion with the Mark Twain club.

Captain Delbrugge was examined next. He came to the building about 8:50 to release the prisoners to go into court. Officer Scally came and said, "That man in there is either dead or dying." Witness went and opened the door, and Fleming could not come out. The officers carried him out onto a cot, and he died there about 9 o'clock. He was badly beaten up.

Officer Jack West said: "I arrested Tom Fleming between three and four o'clock. I heard a noise up by Dolan's, and saw the barkeeper bring a man out and drop him on the pavement. He was bleeding there and I asked what was wrong, and Woodson said he had gone to sleep and had made some trouble and he had brought him out. He was bleeding about the mouth. I called the patrol wagon and took him to the lockup. There was a bruise on his face which kept on swelling. I saw him again this morning. He was dead. When I stood him up on his feet he could not talk, he seemed dazed. He was able to walk from the patrol wagon to the lockup. He washed himself off in the lockup. He sat up in the wagon going to the lockup."

James McDermott, city lockup keeper, on night duty: West brought Fleming in about four a. m. He had a spot on his face and was bleeding. He washed the blood off and was locked up. I did not see any blood on the back of his head; only on his face. His face was badly swollen. When I left at six o'clock he seemed to be sleeping. He

asked for water, but made no complaint against anyone. When I went in at nine o'clock he did not seem to be breathing at all.

Officer West was called again. He had known Fleming about six months. He was quiet and seemed to be a steady drinker. He always seemed to be in a stupor.

Barney Meehan, lockup keeper on day turn, saw Fleming in the lockup. When he unlocked cell No. 3, no one stirred. He went in and struck him with his open hand, but he would not move. Witness went out and said, "He must be dead." He asked the captain afterward and he said he was dead.

Officer Barney Moran: "This morning the captain asked me to go into the cell and try to get that man out. I went in and put my hand on his face and neck and felt his pulse. It was not beating, but he was still warm."

Officer Leo Buch went into the cell and tried to waken Fleming. He seemed to be dead. He helped Moran carry him to the back room.

Killian Bader, of 1317 Market street, said he was standing on the corner with Officer West, between three and four o'clock. They heard a little racket over at Dolan's and saw someone pull a man out and drop him on the sidewalk and go back into the saloon. West went over and witness followed later. Fleming got up and got into the patrol wagon, with a little help.

At this point the inquest was adjourned till 6:15, and which time it was expected Doctors Wilson and Kildreth would be ready to report on the result of the autopsy which they held at Friend & Son's undertaking rooms.

THE AUTOPSY.

It was 7 o'clock before the inquest was resumed. At that time Dr. Wilson stated that he had made a post mortem examination of the body of Thomas F. Fleming on June 22, 1891, at Friend & Son's undertaking rooms on Eleventh street. He found the right side of the face and the right eyelid very much swollen and discolored, the result of contusion. The upper lip was also very much swollen and discolored from the same cause. A slight abrasion was found on the chin and another on the right cheek. On removing the scalp a contusion and slight effusion of blood under the scalp was noticed over the right mastoid process. On opening the skull a very large blood clot was found under the dura mater, covering and compressing the left hemisphere and causing death. The lungs, heart and kidneys were healthy. The liver was somewhat roughened and fatty, but capable of performing its functions, so far as could be judged.

In answer to a question by Captain Dovenor the Doctor stated that a fall could cause a rupture of a blood vessel in the brain.

THE VERDICT.

This was all the testimony, and the jury with a very few minutes' deliberation rendered the following verdict: That the said Thomas F. Fleming came to his death on the 22d day of June, 1891, by reason of blows inflicted by Lafayette Woodson.

D. Z. PHILLIPS, Coroner.
EDWARD ROBERTSON,
ROBERT T. TEASDALE,
JOHN P. BOREMAN,
JOHN HOWELL,
F. WOEBER, Jr.,
EUGENE HANKE.

The attention of the jury being called to the impression the wording of the verdict might create, that the blows from Woodson's fist had caused death, the word "blows" was changed to "injuries."

In the afternoon Woodson was removed from the city lockup to the county jail, where he was temporarily detained in one of the old debtors' rooms, on the second floor. After hearing the evidence, Squire Phillips made out a formal commitment, holding him for a preliminary examination at a time in the future not yet appointed.

Making Pipes From Bar Iron.

Within the last two weeks several persons have been observed to be at work at the Alkanna mill, a portion of the machinery and heating furnace being left when the main portion of the concern was moved to McKeesport, says the Steubenville Herald. The matter was kept as quiet as possible and no person allowed to enter the mill where the work was going forward. It now appears that the parties were experimenting on a new process for making iron and steel pipe direct from bar iron. One day last week, when all the machinery was completed and in working order, J. R. Jackson, of the tube-works, came down quietly and viewed the work. On that day a lead bar was used to the complete satisfaction of the inventor and Mr. Jackson. The lead bar came out lead pipe. The latter part of the week the men at work made a steel pipe from a steel bar. They say that the new process is a complete success.

The Stone Bridge.

Work has been suspended on the Main street bridge, the pits being full of water. In the pit for the south abutment there are nineteen feet of water. The excavation has to go down about six feet yet. Assistant City Engineer White said yesterday that the Freepost stone was condemned only for the top courses of the abutment, and the arch and not much had been cut. The contractors will use Berea stone for the entire south abutments as it is cheaper to get all the stone from one quarry. The Berea stone costs a little more and the freight is higher. It is expected about fifty stone masons, will be employed here, and they can cut 100 cubic feet of stone a day, ready to go in the bridge.

Joseph McMahon of Elyria, O., arrived yesterday to put up the false work for the stone arch. He is at the St. Charles hotel.

Burglars About.

Yesterday morning it was discovered that burglars had been in the house of Henry Bruner at 523 Market street, the night before, but as nothing had been stolen it is supposed they were frightened away. They also visited the premises of E. H. Deiters, in the rear of Bruner's, but got nothing.

NEARLY every seat

has been reserved for the entertainment given by the public schools at the Opera House on next Wednesday night. However, there are a few choice seats left, but to secure them you must not delay a moment.

5,000 palm fans at 1 cent each.

Geo. R. Taylor.

WILLIAM CONARD'S restaurant is now more popular than ever on account of the twenty-five cent meals which he introduced last week.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Matters of Minor Moment in and About the City.

The Gaiety club will give a private dance at Wheeling Park this evening.

The Custom House and postoffice is being thoroughly cleaned and renovated from top to bottom.

The Linsly Cadets' Base Ball Club will play the Eighth Ward Athletics at 2 p. m. to-day, on the Island.

The Reporter, of Washington, Pa., says a field of barley near that town has been harvested and is already in shock.

A SIXTY-TON shipment of plate glass machinery was made yesterday by A. J. Sweeney & Son to Cochran Station, Pa.

FRANK ALBINGER yesterday qualified as executor of the will of Boniface Albinger, deceased; bond, \$4,000; no security required.

A REGULAR meeting of the City Council will be held this evening, and a number of important matters will come up for consideration.

The alumni of Webster school will give a banquet at the school this evening, for which an attractive programme has been prepared.

MR. RUDOLPH MILLER, a North Wheeling glass worker, and Miss Lizzie Wyrick, of Bellaire, are to be married there this afternoon.

No services will be held in the U. P. church until September. Rev. Dr. McClure and his family will spend the summer at Kingwood.

PETER ALLENDORF, of 203 Sixteenth street, yesterday informed the police that he had been robbed of a coat and vest and a silver watch.

SEVERAL showers fell again yesterday and a very heavy storm prevailed about Steubenville. Last evening there were signs of a big storm here, but it did not arrive, and at midnight the sky was clear.

The opera house orchestra will leave early this morning, driving overland, for New Athens, Ohio, where they are engaged to play for the commencement at Franklin College, which occurs on Thursday, and for the other events of commencement week.

The old house on the south bank of the creek west of Main street, which is gradually falling apart owing to sliding due to the excavation for the south abutment of the stone bridge, showed several new cracks yesterday, but was still standing at an early hour this morning. It is surely doomed, though.

The Wheeling Park Association now has its fine new restaurant in full blast, having engaged a first-class chef to preside in the very completely appointed kitchen, and will hereafter serve first-class regular meals at all hours every day up to 8 p. m. This is one of the greatest additions yet made to the conveniences of the Park.

A SURVEY for the line of the Pittsburgh, Washington & Southern, whose termini are Washington, Pa., and Manassas, Va., has been commenced under the direction of Professor T. M. Jackson, of the West Virginia State University, assisted by a number of students. The projectors of the line claim that they will soon be able to procure sufficient money to build it.—Pittsburgh Post.

BIBLE SOCIETY MEETING.

The Officers Re-elected—Reports for the Past Year Presented.

The Wheeling and Ohio County Bible Society held its annual meeting yesterday and transacted the usual business. Judge Cranmer, the Depositary, read the following report:

THESAUURY REPORT.
Money on hand at the beginning of the year.....\$ 22 55
Received during the year for books sold..... 263 13
Received from collections and donations..... 115 32
Total..... 401 00
Paid American Bible Society on book account..... 345 72
Paid for other expenses, including freight, insurance, etc..... 55 28
Total..... 401 00

DEPOSITORY REPORT.

Value of books in branches and depositories at the beginning of the year.....\$188 64
Value of books received during the year..... 471 72
Total..... 660 36
Value of books sold during the year..... 279 15
Value of books furnished to life members and life directors..... 23 60
Value of books donated..... 6 75
Freight bills..... 6 08
Value of books in chief depository at the close of the year..... 847 75
Total..... 660 36

The following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: President, Rev. W. H. Cooke, D. D.; Corresponding Secretary, W. H. Rinehart; Treasurer, H. K. List; Depositary, G. L. Cranmer.

A Bible in Raised Letters.

The Wheeling and Ohio county Bible Society, through its missionary, W. R. M. Denny, has presented to Miss Emma Laughman, a blind girl of East Wheeling, a new testament. The book is in two separate volumes, and is printed in raised letters. It is a very handsome piece of work.

Over 15,000 Bibles in raised letters have been printed by the American Bible Society. A portion of these are of the New York point print style.

The new French bread at the Wheeling Bakery is very elegant. Try it.

MARRIED.

DINGER-YOCKEY—On Monday, June 15, 1891, by the Rev. Charles Tranchell, Mr. JOHN DINGER to Miss M. A. YOCKEY.

DIED.

KURNER—On Sunday morning, June 21, 1891, at 8:15 o'clock, EDWARD F. son of J. C. and Anna C. Kurner, aged 21 years and ten months.

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow." This was the parting hymn we sang. And his voice so sweet and low. Joined in the anthems as they rang In that song of praise and love. Through the vault of ether flew To the heaven of heavens above.

Twice, yes twice, we did repeat That sweet song the angels knew. And with it once again we'll greet our men who are heaven's power through. We who loved him here so well. There now he waits to welcome us. And in God's presence ever dwell.

Round his bedside then we knelt. Silent, some, some voiced a prayer. Then we each and each parted, God, the Savior's presence there. Washed in his blood that dearest friend, His soul from sin was now set free. Then praised be God for such a son.

CHARLES E. PRATT.

Funeral services at Wesley M. E. Church this (Tuesday) afternoon at 3 o'clock. Friends of the family invited to attend. Interment at Peninsula cemetery.

CAMPBELL—On Sunday, June 21, 1891, at 11:45 o'clock p. m., ALBERTA CAMPBELL, in her 80th year.

Funeral services at her late residence, No. 3326 Wood street, this (Tuesday) afternoon at 2 o'clock. Friends of the family invited to attend. Interment at Mt. Zion cemetery.

THE POINT.

"A" From a Catholic Arch bishop down to the Poorest of the Poor all testify, not only to the virtues of

ST. JACOBS OIL,

The Great Remedy For Pain, but to its superiority over all other remedies, as expressed by

It Cures Promptly, Permanently;

which means strictly, that the pain-stricken seek a prompt relief with no return of the pain, and this, they say, St. Jacobs Oil will give. This is its excellence.

G. MENDEL & CO.—FOLDING BEDS.

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WE can show a larger line of FOLDING BEDS than the combined stock of any three houses in the State. It will be to your advantage to inspect our stock before purchasing.

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FOLDING BEDS.

H. EMSHEIMER—FRENCH CHALLIES

49! - 49! - 49!

1,250 yards All-Wool French Challies reduced to

49c.

1,700 yards French Mull, equal in color and finish to \$1 00 India Silk, only

35c.

2,500 yards yard-wide American Challies

10c a yard.

800 yards yard-wide Batiste,

8c a yard.

1,800 yards Hemstitched Black and White Lawn

25 31 and 37c.

300 pairs Lace Curtains reduced nearly one-half.

2,500 New Wrappers, Waists, &c.

EMSHEIMER'S,

18 and 20 Eleventh Street.

FREW & BERTSCHY—FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING.

Our First Word is Bargains

And All From a Practically Unlimited Line of

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NEW STYLES

THIS SPRING.

Facts and Figures Convince All Comers That we Offer the Opportunity of the Season in

Parlor and Bed Room Suits, Mantel Mirrors, Standing Cabinets, Wardrobes and Sideboards, Carpets, Oil Cloths, Linoleums, Window Shades, Rugs and Mats.

UNDERTAKING.

In this department our facilities are unsurpassed. We are prepared to conduct burials in a most satisfactory manner. All modern undertaking appliances. A NEW WHITE FUNERAL CAR, the finest in the city. Also, a FINE BLACK FUNERAL CAR. Competent management guaranteed.

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Dr. A. S. TODD'S
Anti-Bilious
Liver Pills
THE GREAT LIVER and
STOMACH REMEDY.

Indigestion—Sick Headache—Constipation.
IN USE SIXTY YEARS.